

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for providing both wireline and wireless connections to a wireline interface, the system comprising:

a first wireline interface;

5 a second wireline interface;

a wireless interface; and

a switch coupled to the first and second wireline and wireless interfaces, the switch being operable to selectively:

10 couple the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface to allow communication between the first and second wireline interfaces; and

couple the first wireline interface to the wireless interface to allow communication between the first wireline interface and the wireless interface.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein:

15 the first wireline interface is coupled to a third wireline interface using a first wireline connection;

the second wireline interface is coupled to a fourth wireline interface using a second wireline connection;

20 the wireless interface comprises a first wireless interface that is operable to communicate with a second wireless interface via a wireless connection;

the coupling of the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface allows communication between the third and fourth wireline interfaces via the first and second wireline connections; and

25 the coupling of the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface via the wireless and first wireline connections.

3. The system of Claim 2, wherein:

a peripheral device is associated with the third wireline interface;

a first computer system is associated with the fourth wireline interface;

a second computer system is associated with the second wireless interface;

5 the coupling of the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface  
allows communication between the peripheral device and the first computer system  
via the first and second wireline connections; and

the coupling of the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows  
communication between the peripheral device and the second computer system via  
10 the wireless and first wireline connections.

4. The system of Claim 3, wherein:

the first wireline interface is a universal serial bus (USB) type A socket;

the second wireline interface is a USB type B socket;

15 the third wireline interface is a USB port of the peripheral device;

the fourth wireline interface is a USB port of the first computer system;

the first wireless interface is a master adapter; and

the second wireless interface is a slave adapter coupled to the second computer  
system using a USB socket.

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5. The system of Claim 3, wherein the wireless connection is  
automatically established when the second wireless interface is coupled to the second  
computer system.

25 6. The system of Claim 3, wherein the peripheral device is a printer, a  
scanner, digital camera, modem, joystick, webcam, personal digital assistant (PDA),  
mouse, keyboard, port replicator, fax device, or all-in-one printer device.

7. The system of Claim 2, wherein communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface overrides communication between the fourth wireline interface and the third wireline interface.

5 8. The system of Claim 7, wherein the override is delayable until a particular communication between the fourth and third wireline interfaces has been completed.

9. The system of Claim 2, wherein:  
10 the wireless connection comprises a first wireless connection;  
the system further comprises a third wireless interface;  
the first wireless interface is further operable to communicate with the third wireless interface via a second wireless connection; and  
the coupling of the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface further  
15 allows communication between the third wireless interface and the third wireline interface wherein communications between the first wireline interface and the second wireless interface and between the first wireline interface and the third wireless interface are scheduled according to a predetermined schedule.

20 10. The system of Claim 9, wherein the predetermined schedule comprises a prioritization among all the second wireless interfaces.

11. The system of Claim 2, wherein the wireless connection is automatically established when the first wireless interface is reset.

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12. The system of Claim 2, wherein the first and second wireline connections each comprise one or more of:

- one or more insulated wires;
- one or more shielded twisted-pair wires;
- 5 one or more coaxial cables;
- one or more optical fibers; and
- one or more serial buses.

13. The system of Claim 2, wherein the first wireless interface is operable  
10 to communicate with the second wireless interface using a BLUETOOTH wireless protocol.

14. A method for providing both wireline and wireless connections to a wireline interface, the method comprising selectively:

coupling a first wireline interface to a second wireline interface to allow communication between the first and second wireline interfaces; and

5 coupling the first wireline interface to a wireless interface to allow communication between the first wireline interface and the wireless interface.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein:

10 the first wireline interface is coupled to a third wireline interface using a first wireline connection;

the second wireline interface is coupled to a fourth wireline interface using a second wireline connection;

the wireless interface comprises a first wireless interface that is operable to communicate with a second wireless interface via a wireless connection;

15 coupling the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface allows communication between the third and fourth wireline interfaces via the first and second wireline connections; and

20 coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface via the wireless and first wireline connections.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein:

a peripheral device is associated with the third wireline interface;

a first computer system is associated with the fourth wireline interface;

a second computer system is associated with the second wireless interface;

5       coupling the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface allows  
communication between the peripheral device and the first computer system via the  
first and second wireline connections; and

      coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows  
communication between the peripheral device and the second computer system via  
10       the wireless and first wireline connections.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein:

the first wireline interface is a universal serial bus (USB) type A socket;

the second wireline interface is a USB type B socket;

15       the third wireline interface is a USB port of the peripheral device;

the fourth wireline interface is a USB port of the first computer system;

the first wireless interface is a master adapter; and

      the second wireless interface is a slave adapter coupled to the second computer  
system using a USB socket.  
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18. The method of Claim 16, wherein the wireless connection is  
automatically established when the second wireless interface is coupled to the second  
computer system.

25       19. The method of Claim 16, wherein the peripheral device is a printer, a  
scanner, digital camera, modem, joystick, webcam, personal digital assistant (PDA),  
mouse, keyboard, port replicator, fax device, or all-in-one printer device.

20. The method of Claim 15, wherein communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface overrides communication between the fourth wireline interface and the third wireline interface.

5           21. The method of Claim 20, wherein the override is delayable until a particular communication between the fourth and third wireline interfaces has been completed.

10           22. The method of Claim 15, wherein:  
the wireless connection comprises a first wireless connection;  
the system further comprises a third wireless interface;  
the first wireless interface is further operable to communicate with the third wireless interface via a second wireless connection; and  
coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface further allows  
15 communication between the third wireless interface and the third wireline interface wherein communications between the first wireline interface and the second wireless interface and between the first wireline interface and the third wireless interface are scheduled according to a predetermined schedule.

20           23. The method of Claim 22, wherein the predetermined schedule comprises a prioritization among all the second wireless interfaces.

25           24. The method of Claim 15, wherein the wireless connection is automatically established when the first wireless interface is reset.

25. The method of Claim 15, wherein the first and second wireline connections each comprise one or more of:

- one or more insulated wires;
- one or more shielded twisted-pair wires;
- 5 one or more coaxial cables;
- one or more optical fibers; and
- one or more serial buses.

26. The method of Claim 15, wherein the first wireless interface is  
10 operable to communicate with the second wireless interface using a BLUETOOTH wireless protocol.



27. Logic for providing both wireline and wireless connections to a wireline interface, the logic encoded in media and when executed operable to selectively:

5 couple a first wireline interface to a second wireline interface to allow communication between the first and second wireline interfaces; and

couple the first wireline interface to a wireless interface to allow communication between the first wireline interface and the wireless interface.

28. The logic of Claim 27, wherein:

10 the first wireline interface is coupled to a third wireline interface using a first wireline connection;

the second wireline interface is coupled to a fourth wireline interface using a second wireline connection;

15 the wireless interface comprises a first wireless interface that is operable to communicate with a second wireless interface via a wireless connection;

coupling the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface allows communication between the third and fourth wireline interfaces via the first and second wireline connections; and

20 coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface via the wireless and first wireline connections.

29. The logic of Claim 28, wherein:

a peripheral device is associated with the third wireline interface;

a first computer system is associated with the fourth wireline interface;

a second computer system is associated with the second wireless interface;

5 coupling the first wireline interface to the second wireline interface allows communication between the peripheral device and the first computer system via the first and second wireline connections; and

coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface allows communication between the peripheral device and the second computer system via  
10 the wireless and first wireline connections.

30. The logic of Claim 29, wherein:

the first wireline interface is a universal serial bus (USB) type A socket;

the second wireline interface is a USB type B socket;

15 the third wireline interface is a USB port of the peripheral device;

the fourth wireline interface is a USB port of the first computer system;

the first wireless interface is a master adapter; and

the second wireless interface is a slave adapter coupled to the second computer system using a USB socket.  
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31. The logic of Claim 29, wherein the wireless connection is automatically established when the second wireless interface is coupled to the second computer system.

25 32. The logic of Claim 29, wherein the peripheral device is a printer, a scanner, digital camera, modem, joystick, webcam, personal digital assistant (PDA), mouse, keyboard, port replicator, fax device, or all-in-one printer device.

33. The logic of Claim 28, wherein communication between the second wireless interface and the third wireline interface overrides communication between the fourth wireline interface and the third wireline interface.

5           34. The logic of Claim 33, wherein the override is delayable until a particular communication between the fourth and third wireline interfaces has been completed.

10           35. The logic of Claim 28, wherein:  
the wireless connection comprises a first wireless connection;  
the system further comprises a third wireless interface;  
the first wireless interface is further operable to communicate with the third wireless interface via a second wireless connection; and  
coupling the first wireless interface to the first wireline interface further allows  
15 communication between the third wireless interface and the third wireline interface wherein communications between the first wireline interface and the second wireless interface and between the first wireline interface and the third wireless interface are scheduled according to a predetermined schedule.

20           36. The logic of Claim 35, wherein the predetermined schedule comprises a prioritization among all the second wireless interfaces.

25           37. The logic of Claim 28, wherein the wireless connection is automatically established when the first wireless interface is reset.

38. The logic of Claim 28, wherein the first and second wireline connections each comprise one or more of:

- one or more insulated wires;
- one or more shielded twisted-pair wires;
- 5 one or more coaxial cables;
- one or more optical fibers; and
- one or more serial buses.

39. The logic of Claim 28, wherein the first wireless interface is operable  
10 to communicate with the second wireless interface using a BLUETOOTH wireless protocol.